ORDINANCE NO. C-5-80

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH CONSULTANTS AND EXPERT WITNESSES TO OPPOSE A RATE INCREASE APPLICATION FILED BY OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$800.00.

WHEREAS, there is a need to protect the residents of the City of Grove City and the City Government itself against an unreasonable increase in the rates which the Ohio Bell Telephone Company is seeking by virtue of an application filed by the Ohio Bell Telephone Company in the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio under Formal Case 70-1184-TP-AIR, and that opposition to said rate increase is for the preservation of peace, health and welfare, and

WHEREAS, telephone service is a necessity of urban life; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Bell Telephone Company is the principal supplier of telephone service in the City of Grove City, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Bell Telephone Company has filed an application for an increase in rates of \$99 million; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed increase should be examined in the greatest possible detail to determine the fairness, equity, and need for the increase in particular types of service; and

WHEREAS, a number of cities throughout Ohio have joined in objection to this increase being granted, and determined to retain special counsel and consultants to do so; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grove City's share in this expense is based on population; and

WHEREAS, this Council, in the exercise of its sound discretion, deems such an expenditure to be for a public purpose and in the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GROVE CITY, STATE OF OHIO, THAT

SECTION 1. The Mayor of the City of Grove City, on behalf of the City of Grove City, be and he is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with other municipalities within the State of Ohio to investigate, analyze and put forth evidence with regard to the current Ohio Bell Telephone rate proceeding, Case No. 79-1184-TP-AIR, whereby the City of Grove City shall furnish the sum of \$800.00 for the purpose of employing consultants and expert witnesses who will secure and furnish necessary technical information to assist Grove City in opposing the rate increase requested by the Ohio Bell Telephone Company, which effort will inure to the benefit of the peace, health and general welfare of the citizens of Grove City, the City Government and the general business community.

SECTION 2. To authorize the Mayor of the City of Grove City to authorize the City of Columbus City Attorney's office to serve as special legal representative for purposes of the Ohio Bell Telephone rate proceeding.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of paying the costs thereof, the expenditure of \$800.00 is hereby authorized from the General Fund. It is further provided that said expenditure of funds shall be subject to contracts entered into between consultants and expert witnesses and the City of Columbus, which will provide for the terms under which consultants and expert witnesses shall be retained. However, said sum of money shall not be disbursed until further authorization by this Council.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect at the earliest opportunity allowed by law.

Submitted:

2/4/80

Passed:

2/18/80

Effective:

3/19/80

Robert E. Evans, Mayor

Attest:

June A. Cook, Clerk of Counci

I Certify that this ordinance is correct as to form.

R. E. Gunderman, Director of Law

Charles W. Boso, Jr.,

Administrative Assistant/Director of Finance